## Nuclear structure studies using inverse kinematics experiments

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Photonuclear Reactions Workshop Aug 10, 2024



## You heard on Wednesday ...

#### **Quasielastic scattering = Tool to study nuclear structure**



Slide from Or

#### Nuclear correlations across scales



#### Signs of correlations



## Electron scattering is limited to stable nuclei



## Only ~300/3,000 (known) nuclei are stable



#### Nuclear structure studies in exotic nuclei



## Flipping reaction kinematics provides powerful access to structure!



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- 1. Inverse kinematics: nuclear structure using hadronic probes
- 2. Measure *all* reaction particles
- 3. Final state tagging

#### Correlations in exotic nuclei



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# Disadvantages: Medium effects

Incoming proton and outgoing protons interact with other nucleons (initial and final state interactions)

- → disturb initial momentum reconstruction
- extra excitations of the nucleus (break fragment apart)
- eject additional particles (pions, ...)
- → attenuation/absorption
- in-medium effects



T. Aumann, C.A. Bertulani, J. Ryckebusch, PRC 88 (2013). A. Frotscher et al., PRL 125 (2020).

- L. Frankfurt, M. Strikman, M. Zhalov, PLB 503 (2001).
- S. Stevens et al., PLB 777 (2018).



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## Three experimental campaigns

 $\rightarrow$  Proton knockout (p,2p) at high energy and large momentum transfer



#### **Experiment at JINR**

"Mean-field": <sup>12</sup>C(*p*, 2*p*)<sup>11</sup>B <sup>11</sup>**B** <sup>12</sup>C(*p*,2*p*)<sup>10</sup>B,<sup>10</sup>Be SRC: DCH · Dipole magnet RPC Si Proton GEM TC 30cm LH<sub>2</sub> Target **MWPC** -Proton 48 GeV/c <sup>12</sup>C lons BC

#### Heavy-fragment identification: post-selection



Quasi-free (p,2p) scattering

Reconstruct "initial" nucleon momentum from scattered protons



#### But: Is QE scattering free of FSI?





(*p*,2*p*) inclusive scattering dominated by inelastic scattering and initial/final state interactions

#### Reaction mechanism under control



#### Single-step nucleon knockout

ightarrow access ground-state distribution



Calculation of QE (p,2p)scattering off *p*-shell nucleon in <sup>12</sup>C without ISI/FSI

[T. Aumann, C.A. Bertulani, J. Ryckebusch, PRC 88 (2013).]

#### Fragment-proton correlation

**p**<sub>miss</sub> = -**p**<sub>A-1</sub>



#### New 2022 data: QE <sup>12</sup>C(p,2p)<sup>11</sup>B



**GSI-FAIR** 2 GeV/c/u

22

#### QE cross section <sup>12</sup>C(p,2p)<sup>11</sup>B at 3.75 GeV/c/u



23

#### Theory comparison: Translationally-invariant shell model

- σ ~ nuclear structure + reaction [A. Larionov, PRC 110 (2024)]
- Shell Model [WS + 2-body] absorption [Glauber calculation]



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#### Preliminary Data-Theory comparison



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#### Nuclear structure at high momentum transfer



#### Possible reasons for large R<sub>s</sub>

Modified in-medium effects? High sensitivity to absorption



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Modified in-medium effects? High sensitivity to absorption

"Unquenching"



L. Lapikás, G. van der Steenhoven, L. Frankfurt, M. Strikman, M. Zhalov, PRC 61 (2000).  $\rightarrow$  Experiment in inverse kinematics at high energy with hadronic probe

is a "clean" technique to study nuclear structure



500

600

## SRC study in inverse kinematics



#### **Measure:**

- scattered proton momenta
- fragment momentum
- recoil nucleon momentum
- final state / energy

#### Extract:

p<sub>miss</sub> pair c.m. factorization pair ratios spin, parity

## JINR 2018: SRC identification





23 np pairs (<sup>10</sup>B)
2 pp pairs (<sup>10</sup>Be)
→ np dominance

#### Fragment momentum = pair c.m. motion





#### direct extraction: $\sigma = (156 \pm 27) \text{ MeV/c}$ $\rightarrow \text{ small c.m. momentum}$



#### **Pair correlations**

strongly correlated pair: NN back-to-back emission weak interaction between pair and A-2 spectator

#### → Factorization measured directly





36

- I. Study nuclear ground-state distributions Inverse kinematics (p,2p) reactions at high energy, suppresses quantum-mechanical interference
- II. Absorption and spectroscopic strength at large momentum transfer
- III. Study of SRCs with hadronic probes: 1st SRC experiment in inverse kinematics with access to new observables -> probe universality
- IV. Study of cold dense nuclear matter:Pathway for SRC studies with radioactive nuclei
- V. Inverse kinematics with polarized beams







## Thank You.

#### **JINR Experiment**



Göran Johansson (TAU)



Timur Atovuallev (JINR)



Sergey Nepochatykh (JINR)



Yaopeng Zhang (Tsinghua U)



Lenivenko (JINR)





11117

#### **GSI-FAIR Experiment**



Hang Qi (MIT)



Andrea Lagni (CEA)



Manuel Xarepe (U Lisbon)



**Enis Lorenz** (TUDa)





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